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Finance Committee Minutes 03-07-2001

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING, March 7, 2001

7:30 PM O'NEILL ROOM COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING

ATTENDEES:

Phelps*	Feinleib	Kocur*	O'Neill	Mahoney
DeCourcey*	Villandry*	Simmons*	Mazmanian*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst	Ronan	
Scoppettuolo	Franclemont*		Olsen	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*	Tosi*	Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Members Permanent Town Building Committee John Cole (Chair), Bill Shea; Members Capital Planning Committee Steve Andrew, Anthony Lionetta, Barbara Thornton, Charlie Foskett (Chair)

MINUTES of 2/28/01 approved as corrected.

ARTICLE 3 (1ST SPECIAL TM) APPROPRIATION/HARDY SCHOOL

ARTICLE 88 APPROPRIATION/THOMPSON & STRATTON SCHOOLS

ARTICLE 89 APPROPRIATION/PEIRCE SCHOOL

ARTICLE 90 APPROPRIATION/HARDY SCHOOL

ARTICLE 3 (2ND SPECIAL TM) APPROPRIATION/PEIRCE SCHOOL

ARTICLE 4 (2ND SPECIAL TM) APPROPRIATION/HARDY SCHOOL

Cole provided a status report on the school renovations and discussed these articles. No further expenses expected at Brackett. \$100k available to transfer to Hardy. Hardy expected to exceed budget by \$1.3 million to \$1.5 million. Dept. of Revenue (DOR) has approved exclusion up to \$1.8 million over estimate because of building market costs.

Major cost drivers include fixing detached floor-wall joints & building false walls to cover IT wiring. Cole provided the following rough estimate:

\$ (in millions)	Revenue	\$ (in millions)	Expense
24.864	DOR-Approved Exclusion	24.300	Construction
.400	Interest applied last yr	1.500	Plans for 4 schools
.400	Interest avail this yr		
25.664	total	25.800	

An additional \$136,000 may be needed. The PTBC promised a firm number before 4/1.

The PTBC has scrubbed \$1 million from the Peirce plans. A smaller school may not save much, because the overhead does not reduce proportionately. The current estimate exceeds the reimbursable by \$1.6 million. State reimbursable rates are not tracking the construction rate projections. The Dallin estimate exceeds the reimbursable level by 20%. During discussion Foskett expressed concern that DOR approval to exceed the budget circulated during the override campaign may not be sufficient reason to exceed that budget.

VOTED because action is planned at one of the other meetings:

Article 90 No action Unanimous

Article 4 (2nd Special) No action. Unanimous

Article 89 No action Unanimous

VOTED to table action on Phase 2 funding (Article 88 & Article 3 2nd Special) pending a joint discussion w/ School Committee, BOS, PTBC to be organized by Chair. The mtg to follow an agenda agreed upon by the various chairs. Unanimous

DuBois to request MAPC school population estimates from McClenen.

Article 69 CAPITAL BUDGET The Capital Budget Committee presented this year's budget & a 5 yr plan using a detailed handout. There are a number of changes from last year and several concerns. The budget is 4.81% of the estimated revenues.

VOTED \$6,833,340 Unanimous

VOTED to request a personnel study of the Clerk & Registrar offices as proposed by DuBois. Unanimous

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

Meetings are scheduled for March 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28, and April 9, 11 -- all in the Bob O'Neill Room at the Community Safety Bldg. Chair requested members hold 4/10,11,12 open also.

Agendas:

3/19 7:30 Land Acquisition Article 77,79,80

3/21 School Committee

Peter B. Howard, secretary